

Larry Hogan, Governor Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor Mark Belton, Secretary Joanne Throwe, Deputy Secretary

Annual Renewal of Pilot Program Permit

Thank you for your participation in the 2015 Striped Bass Electronic Reporting Pilot. Your current 2015 pilot program permit expires on December 30th and the new 2016 permit is enclosed with this mailing. We are pleased to announce that the E-Reporting Program has continued to grow and for the upcoming season you will be able to report <u>all finfish species</u> using your existing FACTSTM account. So that there is no interruption in your ability to send a Trip Start Hail, the **Deadline for returning the required 2016 permit is December 18, 2015.**

In order to continue to use FACTS[™] to report your striped bass and finfish harvest:

- Sign and return the Finfish Pilot Permit 2016 Season no later than December 18, 2015 by one of these methods:
 - Email to FisheriesEReporting.DNR@maryland.gov
 - o Mail using the provided envelope no postage necessary
 - o Fax to (410) 260-8279
- Your permit will be returned to you after it is reviewed and signed by the Department, authorizing your participation in the program and the ability to use the special incentives.
- Keep a copy of your authorized permit in your possession as proof of your participation in the program.

If we do not receive your signed permit by December 18th, your FACTSTM account may be (temporarily) disabled and starting January 1st you will be responsible for reporting your 2016 harvest activity using paper reports. Once we have received and processed your permit, your account will be reactivated and you will once again be able to report electronically and continue to take advantage of the pilot program incentives.

Striped Bass Pilot Program

- Next day check in of harvest
- Authorized Representative for same day check in of harvest
- Transfer quota shares electronically to other FACTSTM users
- No longer need a quota permit card

Depending on your other license authorizations, you may also qualify to take advantage of these additional pilot program incentives:

Yellow Perch Pilot Program

- Allows use of free box tags for your harvest
- No daily calls to the Yellow Perch Hotline
- No longer need a quota permit card

Blue Crab Pilot Program

• Flexible Day Off – You decide which day each week

For more information about E-Reporting and to view the most current version of the FACTSTM User Manual, you can visit the E-Reporting homepage or contact the Program Coordinator, Stephanie Richards, directly:

http://dnr2.maryland.gov/Fisheries/Pages/e-reporting/index.aspx

Stephanie Richards – (410) 260-8314

FisheriesEReporting.DNR@maryland.gov

Tawes State Office Building – 580 Taylor Avenue – Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-260-8DNR or toll free in Maryland 877-620-8DNR – *dnr.maryland.gov* – TTY Users Call via the Maryland Relay